(a) whether Govt's attention has drawn to the news-item, captioned "Electronics Typewriters—A Lost Baby", appearing in the Financial Express of December 1, 1993; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to remove the dispurity in the Excise Duty leviable on Electronic Typewriters and BC Computers, both of which belong to the same category of products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of the ensuing Budget it is not possible to indicate the views of the government in this matter.

DEPOSITS MADE UNDER INDIRA VIKAS PATRA AND KISAN VIKAS PATRA

2553. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV : Will the MINISTER of FINANCE be pleased state:

(a) what is the total amount of deposits made during the last three years in various post offices under Indira Vikas Patra and Kisan Vikas Patra Scheme; and

(b) Whether Government have decided to utilise the deposits made in every district for the development of the district concerned and if not, what are the easons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The net deposits made during the last three years, namely, 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, in various post offices under Indira Vikas Patra and Kisan Vikas Patra scheme were Rs. 3435.83 crores and Rs. 11112.17 crores respectively.

(b) Three-fourths of net deposits in various small savings schemes, including Indira Vikas Patra and Kisan Vikas Patra, in a State are sanctioned as long-term loans to that State for financing its approved plan outlay.

MASTER GAIN SCHEME 1992

2554. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about four thousand crore rupees had been deposited in the Master Gain Scheme 1992 of the Unit Trust of India; and

(b) whether Government have directed the Income Tax Department that the above deposit will not be taxable and the Income Tax Department will not make any enquiry in such deposits; and if not, what are the details of action taken in this respect by the Income Tax Department ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Unit Trust of India (UTI) has mobilised an amount of Rs. 4,712 crores under the Mastergain 1992 scheme.

(b) The Government have not issued any orders exempting the deposits in the Mastergain 1992 scheme from the payment of income tax and directing the Income Tax Department not to make inquiries in respect of such deposits. However, income derived from the Scheme is subject to deduction under Section 80L of the Income Tax Act, 1961 within certain limits. On a reference received from UTI, the Government issued instructions to the Income tax Department that information in a general manner may not be requisitioned in regard to schemes of UTI, except where the investment made by a unit holder is Rs. 1.00 lakh and above. However, it was clarified that there is